

1. A conversion for a standard sailboat winch or capstan having a rope drum rotatable on a stationary center stem, to provide self-tailing capability on the winch or capstan, comprising:

a rope crown or rope jaw with means for attachment to an upper part of the rope drum of the standard winch to rotate along with the rope drum and to prevent relative rotation on the rope drum, the rope jaw having an annular rope-receiving groove positioned generally concentrically with the winch, and

a feeder arm with means for securing the feeder arm to the stationary center stem of the standard winch, the feeder arm having a line guide to be positioned stationary relative to the rope drum and outwardly from the rope drum to feed a rope out of a coil on the rope drum, over the line guide of the feeder arm and into the rope-receiving groove of the rope jaw.

2. The winch conversion of claim 1, wherein the means for attachment of the rope jaw comprises means for attaching the rope jaw to the top of the winch rope drum.

3. The winch conversion of claim 1, wherein the means for attachment of the rope jaw comprises means for attaching the rope

jaw onto the winch rope drum just below a drum crown of the rope drum.

4. The winch conversion of claim 1, wherein the feeder arm  
5 securing means attaches the feeder arm to the stationary center stem at a position above the rope jaw.

5. The winch conversion of claim 2, wherein the means for  
attaching the rope jaw to the top of the winch rope drum  
10 comprises an annular flange depending downwardly from a bottom side of the rope jaw over the outer edge of a drum crown of the standard winch, the depending flange having an internal thread, and a two-piece ring which is assembled under the drum crown and having external threads positioned to engage with internal  
15 threads of the depending flange, the rope jaw being screwed onto the two-piece ring to firmly secure the rope jaw in position on top of the drum crown.

6. The winch conversion of claim 5, further including a  
20 friction ring positioned between the two-piece ring and the lower surface of the drum crown to prevent slippage.

7. The winch conversion of claim 5, wherein the external and internal threads are reverse threads.

8. The winch conversion of claim 1, wherein the feeder arm further includes a rope stripper extending into the annular rope-receiving groove.